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ABSTRACT

This booklet provides basic information about selecting an educational opportunity abroad. Its chief focus is on postsecondary academic programs, but it also includes information related to work, travel, and volunteer programs in other countries. The first step to studying abroad should be to define one's goals for doing so. The next step should be to identify programs that match defined objectives. Students going abroad today have a wider choice of programs to choose from then ever before. Students in all fields can choose programs of varying length. They can choose to study independently through direct enrollment in a foreign university or participate in a U.S.-sponsored program, or just participate in an internship or summer study program. The next step should be to develop a plan that includes evaluating language skills, arranging for academic credit, setting up transportation and housing, getting the proper paperwork done, and setting up finances. Programs sponsored by U.S. institutions tend to be more expensive, but they also tend to include more of the major expenses: tuition and fees, room and board, books, local transportation, and medical insurance. Students enrolled in an academic program that normally includes a formal program of study abroad may also be considered for federal financial aid. Other opportunities abroad should also be investigated including, learning vacations, volunteer work camps, trainee programs, and working or teaching abroad. Contains a list of organizations and publications available to assist students and advisors. (EMS)

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Services

Basic Facts on Study Abroad in the 21st Century

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Basic Facts on Study Abroad in the 21st Century

Define Your Goals

Study abroad is an enriching, life-changing experience. If you are contemplating study abroad, you have already revealed a desirable trait that sets you apart from other students: intellectual curiosity. You want to know more about other peoples, other languages, other cultures. You understand that there is no substitute for the experience of living in another country, and you are eager to expand your cultural horizons by learning first-hand how other people live, think, work, and play.

Spending time abroad opens a window to a world of new experiences. Students who incorporate overseas study into their academic programs deepen their knowledge and understanding of international, political, and economic issues. Like other students, you may return from your sojourn abroad with a better perspective on world affairs and a broader understanding of your own country and its way of life.

But study abroad does more than promote academic enrichment and personal growth. It also enhances your employment prospects. Employers are increasingly looking for graduates who have studied abroad. Why? Because students who have returned from a successful study experience abroad possess skills that are valued in today's competitive workplace: not just international knowledge and second language skills — important as those are — but also cross-cultural communication skills, flexibility, resilience, and the ability to adapt to new circumstances and deal constructively with differences. Study abroad returnees have demonstrated that they can thrive in new and often challenging environments.

Why do you want to study abroad? Take some time to ponder this seemingly simple question. You may have some very specific reasons: to improve language skills, for example, or to prepare for graduate school. Other reasons may be more general or abstract but are just as valid: to learn about another culture, to enhance your education, to meet new people, to travel. Your self-assessment and candid responses to the following questions can guide you to the kind of program best suited to meet your academic and personal goals:

- Do you want to study intensively in your major field, or are language and cultural studies more important?
- How will study abroad fit into your academic program? Will the courses you take fulfill major requirements or count as electives? Will going abroad alter your graduation plans?
- If you are interested in going abroad primarily to study a language, are you proficient enough in a foreign language to enroll directly in a foreign university? Would you like to continue instruction in a foreign language while taking some of your course work in English? Or are you a beginner seeking a program that combines elementary language instruction with additional course work in English?

- How deeply do you want to be immersed in the culture? Do you want to attend classes with students from the host country, or mainly with other Americans?
- Do you want classes to be on the American model, or on another model which may involve much more independent work?
- Do you want to live with a family, with students from the host country, with other foreigners in the host country, or with fellow American students?
- Do you want to spend most of your time in one location or travel to several places? Do you prefer cities or small towns?
- Think about your learning style. Do you find that independent study liberates you to pursue a subject in depth, or are you more comfortable in structured courses? Would studying in a foreign country change your answer to this question?
- Where do you want to go? Why?
- How much time do you want to spend abroad? How much money can you afford to spend?

Once you have given some thought to these questions and identified your objectives, your next step is to become familiar with the various opportunities open to you. The next section outlines your educational choices so that you can continue the process of matching your objectives with the types of programs available.

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Examine Your Educational Choices

Students going abroad today have a wider choice of programs than ever before. The prevailing model just a couple of decades ago was the "junior year abroad", in which students spent an academic year on a foreign university campus taking classes primarily in the humanities and social sciences.

Times have changed. Students of business, engineering, marine biology, and other disciplines can now find academic programs overseas, and students in all fields can choose programs of varying length, ranging from a semester or quarter to part of a summer or even to a three- or four-week "interim" session offered between semesters. Students can choose to study independently through direct enrollment in a foreign university or participate in a U.S.-sponsored program in which teaching methods and course expectations are similar to those at home.

While most advisers encourage students to stay abroad as long as possible in order to maximize cultural and academic benefits, they also recognize that short-term programs may be the preferred option for some. Short-term programs are especially appealing to students with employment constraints or family obligations which preclude their participation in programs of longer duration.

Many factors may influence your choice of program: course content, location, language proficiency, your financial situation, your degree requirements, and the amount of time you have available, to name just a few. Keep these factors in mind as you evaluate the program models below.

Enrolling in a program sponsored by a U.S. college or university
The majority of undergraduates participate in study abroad programs organized by their own institutions, or by other American colleges or groups of higher educational institutions. Academic credit is most easily arranged in this way, and most forms of financial aid can generally be applied to program costs. Hundreds of academic year, semester, quarter, and summer programs are available. Program sponsors usually make some or all of the academic, housing, and travel arrangements for students.

Direct exchange agreements between U.S. and foreign universities often create opportunities for students to study abroad individually rather than with a group of fellow students. These opportunities usually involve a minimum of support on site.

Enrolling in a program sponsored by an organization other than a college or university
Several not-for-profit and proprietary (for-profit) organizations, both American and foreign, sponsor study abroad programs. Some of these organizations have agreements with colleges and universities that allow students to be registered on their home campuses. Other organizationsindicate that academic credit is available or transferable but expect students to arrange or verify the credit themselves. Be sure to investigate your school's policy as well as the

policy of the program you are considering.

Enrolling in a special program for international students at a foreign university
Language and culture programs designed for foreigners enable U.S. students to interact with students from several other countries. Some programs sponsored by foreign universities are especially designed to meet the needs of English-speaking students, with courses offered in English as well as the language of the host country. In addition, increased academic mobility and exchange in Europe in the 1990s resulted in the development of English-language study programs designed for students from other countries; some of these may be available to U.S. students as well. Credit does not transfer automatically from foreign universities and in some cases is not transferable. If you plan to enroll in such a program, be sure to discuss credit transfer with your adviser.

Enrolling directly in a foreign university as an occasional or special student
Undergraduates can enroll independently in some foreign universities as occasional or special students, similar to taking classes in this country as a nonadmitted or part-time student. Credit does not transfer automatically from foreign universities and in some cases is not transferable. Be sure to discuss credit transfer with your adviser if you are considering this option.

Enrolling directly in a foreign university as a degree candidate
Many motivated students have returned to the United States with degrees earned from prestigious universities abroad. American students who want to earn a foreign degree should plan especially carefully. Since educational systems vary, no foreign degree is exactly equivalent to a U.S. degree. American higher educational institutions may not accept either credits or degrees earned overseas. In addition, foreign degrees may not meet U.S. licensing and employment requirements.

Universities in many countries consider their undergraduate academic level comparable to graduate education in the United States. They only admit American students who already have a bachelor's degree. The reason for this restriction is that secondary school education is often more advanced and intensive abroad. A foreign secondary school graduate may have the same academic preparation as an American student who has completed two or more years of college. Some foreign universities accept U.S. undergraduates only after they have completed their sophomore year.

If you plan to earn a foreign degree, learn as much as possible about the educational systems of the countries that interest you. The length and nature of study required to earn a foreign degree vary from country to country — and sometimes within a country. Eligibility requirements and application procedures vary from institution to institution, just as they do in the United States. Information may be available electronically on the World Wide Web, or you can write directly to institutions for information and instructions.

Students planning to enroll directly in a foreign university should find out from the institution about laws or regulations affecting international students. Several countries have quotas for the total number of foreign students admitted by their universities, especially for those studentsenrolling for a degree. Quotas sometimes include total or partial restrictions on foreign student admission to fields such as medicine, dentistry, the sciences, and law. Restricted fields sometimes change from year to year.

Enrolling in a U.S. or international college abroad
These schools, which follow the organizational model, credit system, curricula, teaching methods, and degree programs of U.S. institutions, fall into three categories:

- Overseas campuses of U.S. colleges and universities

- U.S. colleges abroad that admit both American and foreign students. Some have U.S. accreditation, and some are applying for it. Be sure to check on the accreditation status of the college that interests you, as it may affect the transfer of credit.

- Asian and Middle Eastern institutions founded by U.S. organizations. These schools provide American-style education for the people of their countries. They are not American schools; rather, they form part of the higher education system of the host country. You may be able to enroll in these institutions as an international student, although some have quotas for U.S. citizens.

Participating in an internship or service-learning project

U.S. colleges often include internships or service-learning projects as part of the educational experience of foreign study. Internships offer practical learning experience in governmental, professional, or field settings and are usually developed in the student's major field of study in consultation with faculty advisers. Service-learning opportunities are often carried out in developing countries where students can assist governmental and community agencies on projects directly benefiting local communities. Internships and service-learning projects often carry academic credit, although this should be confirmed in advance.

Participating in a summer study abroad program

Studying abroad during the summer vacation offers a great opportunity to combine vacation travel with study. American and foreign higher educational institutions sponsor programs that offer diverse approaches to learning and frequently feature program-related travel as well as academic course work. Many specialized institutes abroad focus on the art, language, and culture of their home countries and offer short-term programs to U.S. nationals. The latter type of program is often open to people of any age and may range in length from three weeks to three months.

Pursuing a specialized course of education abroad

- **Graduate study**. U.S. graduate students may be able to enroll independently at foreign universities, generally for short-term study or research. In addition, some American colleges and universities sponsor graduate programs abroad or admit graduate students to their undergraduate programs overseas. Graduate study and research abroad can play an important role in defining career objectives and in determining lifetime research interests. U.S. academic advisers can be of great help in introducing graduate students to professional networks in other countries and in helping students avoid pitfalls, such as choosing research topics that cannot be pursued effectively in given countries or choosing fields of study for which quotas exist.

- **Independent study**. In contrast to the traditional classroom setting, some U.S. colleges and universities offer independent study arrangements, in which the student pursues an in-depth study or research project in a selected field or on a special topic. The student accepts responsibility for completing the study or conducting the research, with fulfillment of requirements evaluated by a faculty adviser on the student's return to the home campus.

- **Medical study**. Students planning to undertake medical study abroad should find out whether the programs in which they plan to enroll are acceptable to American authorities.

Graduates of medical schools outside the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada must be certified by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) before they can be appointed to a U.S. residency program. U.S. residency is required for licensing in almost all licensing jurisdictions.

For a listing of organizations and publications offering information about study options abroad, please refer to the *Resources for Students and Advisers* sections: Organizations and Publications.

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Make a Plan

Planning is the key to successful study abroad. How well you achieve your personal and academic objectives — and your long-range career goals — depends on your choice of the right country, institution, and program.

Begin planning as soon as possible for departure. A year or more is not too early, especially if you are planning your own program. Use your lead time to:

Consult your campus advisers
If you are a student at a U.S. college or university, your first and most important step is to consult your study abroad and academic advisers. If your campus does not have a study abroad office, work with your academic adviser to identify other key people on campus whose assistance you may need in planning your program abroad. These are likely to include people in the registrar's and admissions offices as well as department heads and deans.

You will also find it helpful to speak with U.S. students who have recently studied abroad, with students from other countries to learn what it is like to be a "foreign student," and with faculty members knowledgeable about international study.

Evaluate your language skills
Language ability is a primary factor in choosing where to study. You must be sufficiently proficient in the language of instruction to understand lectures and read course material. Indeed, many students study abroad specifically to strengthen foreign language skills.

Many U.S. college-sponsored programs are conducted in cooperation with a foreign institution or are taught by foreign faculty. The language of instruction is often the language of the host country. If you are planning to study in the host country language, be aware that the minimumeligibility requirement for most U.S. college-sponsored programs is two years of study at the college level or the equivalent.

If you enroll directly in a foreign university, courses are usually taught in that country's language. U.S. students typically must take language proficiency examinations for admission to foreign universities. If your language skills need improvement, many foreign educational institutions offer U.S. students special courses in the language and culture of their countries. American institutions sponsor similar programs.

Lack of proficiency in a foreign language does not restrict your study to the United Kingdom or Australia. English language options exist all over the world. In many countries, you can choose among programs taught entirely in the language of the host country, taught both in English and a foreign language, or taught entirely in English. However, your understanding of the country will be greater — and your appreciation of your experience will likely be deeper — if your program includes development of language skills.

Choose a location

About two-thirds of U.S. students abroad study in Western European nations. For those who want to know more about the languages and civilizations that are the origin of much of our culture, Western Europe is an attractive option. However, increasing numbers of students are choosing to study in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, and Latin America.

The cultures of developing countries contrast sharply with the United States and offer provocative insights into our own society, values, and larger world role. With over 80 percent of the world's population living in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, a better understanding of nations in these parts of the globe is valuable preparation for life in an increasingly interdependent global society.

Other options include study in the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and the industrialized nations of East Asia, all of which have increasing impact on the United States. More study abroad opportunities in these nations have become available in the 1990s and will probably increase in the next century.

Arrange academic credit

Find out how international study will affect your degree and graduation requirements before making final decisions about your study plans. Your adviser can guide your evaluation of study abroad programs in relation to your academic needs — and may be able to help arrange academic credit.

Many U.S. college-sponsored study abroad programs award academic credit. However, your college may or may not recognize academic credit awarded by another institution's study abroad program. Students who assume they will earn U.S. credit for study abroad are often disappointed upon their return. Granting credit is never automatic.

If you are considering another U.S. institution's program, first make sure the institution isaccredited by a recognized accrediting body. Accreditation is the process by which U.S. educational institutions are evaluated for performance, integrity, and quality; institutions are reviewed periodically for maintenance of academic standards.

Credits earned at an accredited U.S. institution are transferable in the sense that they are able to be transferred, but it is the decision of the receiving institution whether the credits actually transfer, and if so whether they fulfill general education or major requirements, or whether they count as electives.

Check with your study abroad or academic adviser to determine if credits you earn on another school's program will be accepted on your campus. At many colleges or universities this is done through the study abroad office. At other institutions, it is handled by the admissions office or registrar in conjunction with academic departments. Well before you leave the United States, find out the procedure to ensure receipt of credit and obtain a written document confirming that credit will be awarded.

If you are attending a university abroad, the credits you earn will most likely be evaluated on your campus as foreign transfer credit. You can maximize your chances of receiving credit on your campus by bringing back as much documentation as possible on your academic program: course syllabi, exams, papers, and other work submitted for evaluation.

Arrange transportation and housing

Many U.S.-sponsored study abroad programs include group transportation. In other cases, students are responsible for their transportation to and from the program's location.

Travel agencies can provide advice on special student flights and discounts, student tours, accommodations, and rail passes. If you are arranging your own transportation, check with several agencies to compare fares. Compare the price of an open-ended ticket, in which you return at any point within a specified length of time, with the price of a ticket bearing a stated return date. If you are planning to travel on your own after your program ends, you might want to investigate "open jaw" fares, which allow you to return from a city that is far from your city of arrival.

Foreign government tourist offices, consulates, and embassies provide a variety of free literature about travel to their particular countries. Rail passes, such as the Eurail and Britrail, offer unlimited train travel for periods of one week to three months. Rail passes — many of which must be purchased in the United States before departure — may offer substantial savings to those who will be traveling by rail while abroad. The International Student Identity Card (ISIC) offered by the Council on International Educational Exchange entitles student bearers to numerous discounts on transportation, accommodations, museum entrance fees, and more.

Student housing is difficult to find almost everywhere. Often the choices are few. Many universities have strict quotas for the number of rooms allotted to foreign students. Generally, foreign students live in apartments, pensions, student hostels, or with families. Be sure to find out from your study abroad program representative whether securing housing is the student'sresponsibility, then check on the available alternatives.

Obtain your passport (and visas, if required)

Apply early for a U.S. passport. Processing an application takes four to six weeks — even longer during the peak travel season. You may apply in person at selected post offices, at federal or state courts of records, or at one of the passport agencies of the U.S. Department of State.

A visa is written permission to visit a country granted by the government of that country. If you plan to study in a country for an extended period, you may need a special student visa. Information relating to visas may be obtained from the nearest embassy or consulate of the country concerned. Some embassies and consulates process visa requests quickly, but many do not.

Verify medical insurance

Adequate insurance is important when visiting another country. Before leaving the United States, be sure that your medical and accident insurance policies are valid while traveling abroad. You should verify that your coverage includes medical evacuation and repatriation. Holders of the ISIC receive a basic plan of accident/medical insurance during their travel outside the United States as well as access to an international toll-free hotline for assistance in medical, legal, or financial emergencies. A physical and dental checkup are advised, and you should obtain any special vaccinations and inoculations that may be required or recommended.

Prepare yourself for life outside the United States

Once you have selected your program, prepare for life in a foreign country. If you are going on an organized program, you will probably receive much useful information and guidance at predeparture orientations. Whether you are in a group program or on your own as an independent student, you should become familiar with the country's language, history, culture, and social and

political conditions through books, periodicals, plays, films, and exhibitions. Use reference materials at the public library. Request information from the appropriate embassy, consulate, or tourist office. Americans abroad are often asked questions about U.S. government, history, economics, culture, and current events. Your preparation for travel abroad should include a review of these topics.

Think ahead about coming home

As odd as that may sound, part of your study abroad planning should involve your return. Prepare yourself for a period of cultural adjustment when you come back to the United States. Many returning students are surprised to find that adjusting to life "back home" is more difficult than the adjustment they made to life in a foreign country. Why is this? While students understand that study abroad is a life-changing experience, many of them are not immediately aware of how they have changed or how their experience abroad has caused them to look at life in the United States through different lenses.

Many U.S. colleges and universities offer reentry workshops to help students integrate their study abroad experience with their continued life and studies. Such workshops also allow students to talk about their experiences with people they know will appreciate them: other student travelers.When you return to campus from your academic sojourn, consider volunteering as a "past participant" at orientations your study abroad adviser may be organizing for the next group of outbound students.

One other element to think about before you leave the country is what courses you need to take on your return. You may be able to preregister for courses to be taken during the first term after your return. Discuss this option with your study abroad adviser before you depart.

For additional information about organizations and publications covering the topics mentioned above, please refer to the *Resources for Students and Advisers* sections: Organizations and Publications.

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Decide How You Will Finance Your Trip

As you decide which program meets your needs, you should have an accurate idea of how much your sojourn abroad is going to cost. Programs organized by U.S. institutions and organizations usually charge a price that covers the major expenses: tuition and fees, room and board, books, local transportation, and medical and accident insurance. Be sure to find out what your program's fees do not cover. Overseas round-trip transportation is sometimes included, sometimes not. After comparing the cost of several programs, you may discover that a higher-priced program is actually a better value because of the elements it includes.

Tuitions at foreign universities, which are usually state supported, are often much lower than those charged by American institutions. Some countries, however, such as the United Kingdom and Australia, have initiated separate overseas student fees that are considerably higher than those charged to their own citizens. U.S. institutions try to keep the costs of their overseas programs comparable to costs on the home campus.

The cost of living abroad depends on the country. As you would expect, big cities are generally more expensive than smaller cities and towns. Living in countries in which the U.S. dollar is weak relative to the local currency is especially expensive. Your own spending habits will also play a large role in how much you spend. Students on limited budgets have had successful and rewarding study abroad experiences by managing their resources very carefully. Budget for additional expenses such as admission to cultural sites and events, optional travel (often an unexpectedly large item), food and housing during school vacation periods, fluctuating exchange rates, inflation, gifts, and personal expenses.

Financial aid

The Higher Education Act of 1965, amended in 1980, says that a student enrolled in an academic program which normally includes a formal program of study abroad may be considered for federal financial aid for "reasonable costs" associated with such study. Talk to your study abroad adviser, financial aid officer, or bursar about the possibility of using the financial aid made available to you through your college or university. Investigate all sources:

- **Federal need-based aid**, in the form of grants that do not need to be repaid, and loans, which require repayment.
- **State need-based aid and merit scholarships**. These include grants or loans as above but may also include tuition waivers or other types of aid.
- **Institutional aid**. Most institutions have a wide array of merit or need-based scholarships, with the funds often donated by alumni. Find out if you qualify for any of these awards; you may find that the moneys can be applied toward the cost of study abroad programs sponsored or recognized by your institution. In addition, some institutionally based study abroad programs offer limited scholarship support for their participants.

If you are planning to attend a program sponsored by another institution, look into the possibility that a consortium agreement exists between the two schools that will allow you to carry your financial aid to the sponsoring institution. Your financial aid and study abroad advisers are good sources of information.

Private organizations and civic groups are two additional sources of aid for study abroad. For example, the Rotary Foundation, the world's largest privately sponsored international scholarship program, provides funding for overseas study to undergraduate, graduate, vocational, and journalism students. Private organizations and associations related to your area of study or destination are worth consulting, as are ethnic and service organizations.

Competitive fellowships and grants for graduate study and research abroad are available through the U.S. government. Two examples are the Fulbright U.S. Student Program and the National Security Education Program (NSEP). The latter also offers scholarships for undergraduate study abroad. In addition, government organizations in foreign countries, such as the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), offer opportunities at the postbaccalaureate level.

Finding funding sources requires creativity and perseverance. Many college and university study abroad offices maintain libraries that offer information on funding for study abroad. Information can now also be obtained through the Internet.

For additional information about organizations and publications covering financial aid, please refer to the *Resources for Students and Advisers* sections: Organizations and Publications.

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Consider Other Opportunities Abroad

After investigating academic programs abroad, you may decide you would prefer a different kind of experience. Or you may want to study abroad first, then follow up with a different kind of overseas learning experience. For many students, a study abroad program is the springboard to a lifetime of involvement in international activities. Here are some alternatives to study abroad:

Learning vacations
Designed for adult travelers interested in short-term educational vacations abroad, learningvacations may include archaeological expeditions, historical and cultural tours, or culinary excursions, to name just a few. Sponsors often include colleges and universities, museums, environmental and voluntary service organizations, educational exchange organizations, and commercial tour operators. People over 60 should consider opportunities through organizations such as Elderhostel, a Boston-based organization that organizes educational programs combining classes and hosteling for people of retirement age.

Volunteer work camps
Volunteer work camps offer special opportunities to young people from all over the world to live and work with local people on community development projects. Usually no special skills are required. Most projects take place during the summer for two-to three-week periods. The work is unpaid but volunteers usually receive room and board.

Trainee programs
If you are interested in skilled, short-term employment, you may be able to arrange a traineeship. Most trainee programs are for students who have completed at least two years of college. Traineeships vary in length from a few months to one year, and they usually include sufficient compensation to cover living expenses.

Some colleges and universities have campus chapters of AIESEC, the International Association of Students in Economics and Business Management. AIESEC arranges job exchanges in over 70 countries for students of all disciplines, although opportunities are limited to students at member colleges and universities.

The Association for International Practical Training (AIPT), the U.S. representative of the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE), offers a similar network of trainee programs for students in engineering, architecture, mathematics, and the natural and physical sciences. Undergraduates with a minimum of two years of college and graduate students are eligible.

Work abroad
College students looking for work abroad usually find it in the form of internships and traineeships, short-term positions organized for a fee through U.S. organizations, or voluntary service work. Finding a long-term, well-paying position is rare, as such jobs usually go to

permanent residents of the country. Remember that most governments require a special work permit or visa, regardless of whether the position is paid or unpaid.

American students can arrange for temporary paid employment in Canada, Costa Rica, France, Germany, Ireland, Jamaica, New Zealand, Spain, and the United Kingdom through the Council on International Educational Exchange's Work Abroad Program.

Teaching abroad

Various opportunities are available for teaching overseas. One option involves formal exchanges through which U.S. and foreign teachers switch positions and retain salary and benefits from their home schools. Other U.S. educators work for foreign governments to plan curricula or train future teachers at colleges of education. Still another option is to teach at an American orinternational school overseas.

Requirements for teaching abroad vary depending upon the program and type of position sought. In some cases, a bachelor's degree, teaching certificate from a recognized U.S. college or university, and one year of teaching experience are required. In other cases, particularly with short-term English instruction, you can find opportunities to teach English without any formal training. Ability to speak the country's native language may not always be required but preference is likely to be given to candidates who have such ability.

In most countries throughout the world, the demand for English instruction on all levels is great. As native speakers, Americans can usually find work overseas teaching or tutoring English. Your opportunities are enhanced if you have a degree in teaching English as a foreign language, teaching certification, or solid experience.

Minority Student Alumni Project

As part of the Forum on Underrepresentation in Education Abroad, cosponsored by Council and NAFSA, Council's Web page identifies study abroad advisers who maintain lists of past minority participants who are willing to speak with their peers about participating in work, study, and volunteer abroad programs. This information can be accessed by going to Council's Web site at: http://www.ciee.org/council/mindis.htm.

Travelers with disabilities

Students with disabilities who want to study abroad should contact Mobility International USA (MIUSA), an organization active in advocacy for the disabled traveler. MIUSA publishes a quarterly newsletter, books, and brochures that provide useful information for the disabled who are planning international travel and study.

The National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange, a Department of State-funded project coordinated by Mobility International USA, is designed to expand the international opportunities available for people with disabilities. Disabled students can get peer advising through the Minority Student Alumni Web site discussed above.

For a listing of organizations and publications offering information about the opportunities mentioned above, please refer to the *Resources for Students and Advisers* sections: Organizations and Publications.

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Resources for Students and Advisers: Organizations

Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Économiques et Commerciales (AIESEC)
(International Association of Students in Economics and Business Management)
135 West 50th Street, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10020
Tel: (212) 757-3774
WWW: http://www.aiesec.org/

AIESEC arranges job exchanges in over 70 countries for students of all disciplines; students must be enrolled at member colleges and universities.

Association for International Practical Training (AIPT)/
International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE)
10400 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 250
Columbia, MD 21044-3510
Tel: (410) 997-2200
Fax: 410 992-3924
E-mail: aipt@aipt.org
WWW: http://www.softaid.net/aipt/aipt.html

This nonprofit organization assists students in obtaining work permits in some 60 countries for career-related practical training in most fields. AIPT also has programs for paid internships in engineering, science, tourism, and hotel and restaurant management.

Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE or Council)
205 East 42nd St
New York, NY 10017-5706
Tel: (888) COUNCIL (toll free)
Fax: (212) 822-2699
E-mail: info@ciee.org
WWW: http://www.ciee.org/

This nonprofit organization publishes extensively on work, study and travel abroad, and administers CIEE study abroad programs, Council Work Abroad Program, and Council Work camps. Its subsidiary, Council Travel Services, offers discounted airfares and the International Student Identity Card (ISIC).

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)
(German Academic Exchange Service)
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10022
Tel: (212) 758-3223
Fax: (212) 755-5780
E-mail: daadny@daad.org
WWW: http://www.daad.de/

Information from Germany's official exchange office about study opportunities in Germany as well as funding for foreign students, graduates, and academics.

Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)
3624 Market St
Philadelphia, PA 19104
Tel: (215) 386-5900
WWW: http://www.ecfmg.org/

Graduates of medical schools outside the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada must be certified by ECFMG before they can be appointed to medical residency programs in the United States.

Elderhostel
75 Federal St
Boston, MA 02110
Tel: (617) 426-7788
WWW: http://www.elderhostel.org/

Elderhostel organizes programs in the United States and abroad that combine classes and hosteling for people of retirement age.

Institute of International Education (IIE)
809 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017-3580
Tel: (212) 984-5413
Fax: (212) 984-5358
WWW: http://www.iie.org/

IIE is a nonprofit organization administering education, training and research activities in consultation with sponsor organizations. It assists the U.S. Department of State in the administration of the Fulbright Program at the predoctoral level and manages a number of exchange programs. IIE also publishes Academic Year Abroad and Vacation Study Abroad, U.S. higher education's standard information resources on international study.

Mobility International USA (MIUSA)
PO Box 10767
Eugene, OR 97440
Tel: (541) 343-1284
Fax: (541) 343-6812
E-mail: miusa@igc.apc.org
WWW: http://www.miusa.org/

MIUSA provides publications and videos on including persons with disabilities in international exchange and travel programs.

NAFSA: Association of International Educators
1875 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20009-5728
Tel: (202) 462-4811
Fax: (202) 667-3419
E-mail: inbox@nafsa.org
WWW: http://www.nafsa.org/

NAFSA is a nonprofit membership association that provides training, information, and other educational services to professionals and volunteers in international educational exchange. The organization produces essential publications for advisers and administrators in international educational exchange.

National Security Education Program (NSEP)
1400 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-2403
Tel: (703) 696-1991
Fax: (703) 696-5667
E-mail: nsepo@nsep.policy.osd.mil
WWW: http://www.iie.org/nsep/

U.S. government program providing undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships for study and research outside of Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Undergraduate scholarship competition is administered by the Institute of International Education; Tel: (800) 618-6737 or (202) 326-7697; E-mail: nsep@iie.org. Graduate fellowship competition is administered by the Academy for Educational Development; Tel: (800) 498-9360 or (202) 884-8285; fax (202) 884-8408; E-mail: nsep@aed.org.

Rotary Foundation of Rotary International
One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Avenue

Evanston, IL 60201-3698
Tel: (847) 866-3000
Fax: (847) 328-8554
WWW: http://www.rotary.org/foundation/

The Foundation provides information about Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships for study abroad.

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Basic Facts on Study Abroad in the 21st Century

Resources for Students and Advisers: Publications

Academic Year Abroad 1997–98, Sara J. Steen, ed., 1997 (revised annually), 670 pp., ISBN 0-87206-233-3, published by the Institute of International Education. Also available as a searchable listing accessible to IIE members on IIE's Web site: http://www.iie.org/svcs/.

Authoritative and comprehensive directory of over 2,430 semester and academic year programs offered by U.S. and foreign universities and private organizations. Indexed for fields of study and location, with special indices for cost; graduate, professional, and adult courses; internships, practical training, student teaching, and volunteer work. Companion volume to Vacation Study Abroad.

Accredited Institutions of Postsecondary Education, Alison Anaya, ed., 1996 (updated annually), ISBN 0-89774-950-2, The Oryx Press, Phoenix, AZ, published by the American Council on Education for the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Education.

A directory of accredited institutions, professionally accredited programs, and candidates for accreditation. Useful for determining if a study abroad program is sponsored by an accredited institution.

Archaeological Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin, published annually for the Archaeological Institute of America by Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., Order Dept., 4050 Westmark Drive, Dubuque, IA 52002; Tel: (800) 228-0810; E-mail: aia@bu.edu.

A comprehensive guide to excavations, field schools, and special programs with openings for volunteers, students, and staff, for academic credit or experience.

Back in the USA: Reflecting on Your Study Abroad Experience and Putting it to Work, Dawn Kepets, 1995, 34 pp., published by NAFSA; WWW: http://www.nafsa.org/.

A workbook to help returning students put their cross-cultural experiences into perspective. Includes an adviser's outline for a re-entry workshop.

Commonwealth Universities Yearbook 1995–96, 2 volumes, published annually by the

Association of Commonwealth Universities, London.

Profiles of universities in all 34 Commonwealth countries, from Australia to Zimbabwe, with comprehensive listings of degree programs and a register of academic and administrative staff at each institution. Useful for researching options for direct enrollment and degree programs in universities in which thelanguage is English.

Directory of International Internships: A World of Opportunities, C. Gliozzo, V. Tyson, and A. Pena, eds., 1994, 168 pp., published by Michigan State University, Attn: International Placement, Career Services & Placement, 13 Student Services Bldg., East Lansing, MI 48824; Tel: (517) 355-9510, ext.371; Fax: (517) 353-2597; E-mail: pla14@msu.edu.

A directory of overseas experiential education opportunities available for academic credit, for pay, or for experience.

Financial Aid for Study Abroad: A Manual for Advisers and Administrators, S. Cooper, W. Cressey, and N. Stubbs, eds., 1989, 105 pp., ISBN 0-912207-55-8, published by NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

Guide for study abroad and other campus administrators describing federal and other sources of financial aid for undergraduate study abroad and offering advice on working with campus financial aid offices.

Financial Resources for International Study: A Guide for U.S. Students and Professionals, Sara J. Steen, ed., 1996, 280 pp., ISBN 0-87206-220-1, published by the Institute of International Education. Also available as a searchable listing accessible to IIE members on IIE's Web site: http://www.iie.org/svcs/.

Authoritative and comprehensive directory of funding sources available to support undergraduate and graduate study abroad, and postdoctorates and professional learning abroad. Covers study, research, and internships. Indices for level of study, subject, organization name.

Forms of Travel: Essential Documents, Letters and Flyers for Study Abroad Advisers, J. Carr and E. Summerfield, 1994, 242 pp., published by NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

Collection of forms and information materials developed by study abroad offices and covering such topics as the application process, financial aid, travel documents, medical insurance, housing, orientation, and reentry.

Fulbright and Other Grants for Graduate Study Abroad, published annually by the Institute of International Education; Tel: (212) 984-5330; WWW: http://www.iie.org/fulbright/us/.

Information on scholarships for graduating seniors and graduate students from the U.S., as well as English teaching assistantships.

How to Read Study Abroad Literature, Lily von Klemperer, 1976. Reprinted in IIE's Academic Year Abroad and Vacation Study Abroad and in NAFSA's Guide to Education Abroad.

How to evaluate advertisements for study abroad programs.

International Handbook of Universities, 14th edition, Ann C. M. Taylor, ed., 1996, 1,915 pp., ISBN 0-333-57486-9, published in the United States by Stockton Press.

Descriptions of over 5,700 universities and other institutions of higher education in 170 countries and territories (excluding Commonwealth countries), covering academic departments, language of instruction, admission requirements, fees, and student enrollment data.

NAFSA's Guide to Education Abroad for Advisers and Administrators, W. Hoffa and J. Pearson, eds., 1997, 494 pp., published by NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

Peace Corps Information Packet, free from Peace Corps, 1990 K St., NW, Room 9320, Washington, DC 20526; Tel: (800) 424-8580; WWW: http://www.peacecorps.gov/.

The Peace Corps and More: 120 Ways to Work, Study, and Travel in the Third World, Medea Benjamin, 1993 (new edition forthcoming, 1996), Seven Locks Press, 107 pp.

Peterson's Study Abroad 1997: A Guide to Semester, Summer and Year Abroad Academic Programs, 1997 (revised annually), 1,008 pp., ISBN 1-56079-659-6; WWW: http://www.petersons.com.

Detailed information on over 2,000 study abroad programs worldwide. Indices for field of study, location, host institutions, and internships.

Smart Vacations: The Traveler's Guide to Learning Abroad, 1993, 320 pp., St. Martin's Press, ISBN 0-312-08823-X, published by the Council on International Educational Exchange.

Directory of programs for adults listing study tours, outdoor adventures, archaeological digs, arts programs, language study, and voluntary service.

Survival Kit for Overseas Living: For Americans Planning to Live and Work Abroad, L. Robert Kohls, ed., 1996, 181 pp., Intercultural Press.

A series of practical exercises for Americans planning to live and work abroad. Offers guidelines on setting objectives, getting to know a host culture, and dealing with cultural adjustment issues.

Teaching English Abroad: Talk Your Way Around the World!, Susan Griffith, 1994, 368 pp., ISBN 1-85456-160-0V, published by Vacation Work, distributed by Peterson's Guides.

Extensive coverage of teaching opportunities worldwide coverage, with in-depth information on everything from preparation to the job search. Extensive directories of schools.

Vacation Study Abroad 1997–98, Sara J. Steen, ed., 1997 (revised annually), 446 pp., ISBN 0-87206-234-1, published by the Institute of International Education. Also available as a searchable listing accessible to IIE members on IIE's Web site: http://www.iie.org/sves/.

Authoritative and comprehensive directory of over 1,800 summer and short-term study programs sponsored by U.S. and foreign organizations and language schools in over 60 countries. Indices for fields of study and location, with special indices for cost; graduate, professional, and adult courses; internships, practical training, student teaching, and volunteer work. Companion volume to Academic Year Abroad.

Volunteer! The Comprehensive Guide to Voluntary Service in the U.S. and Abroad, R. Christiano, ed., 1995, 188 pp., published by the Council on International Educational Exchange.

Descriptions of nearly 200 voluntary service organizations recruiting volunteers for work in the United States and abroad. Organized by short-term and long-term opportunities, with indices by country and type of work.

Work, Study, Travel Abroad: The Whole World Handbook 1994–1995, L. Hernandez and M. Terry, eds., 1994, 604 pp., ISBN 0-312-10578-9, published by St. Martin's Press for the Council on International Educational Exchange.

Background information and overview of opportunities for study, advice on independent study, job opportunities, and inexpensive travel.

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Work Your Way Around the World, Susan Griffith, 1995, 512 pp., ISBN 1-85458-162-7V, distributed by Peterson's Guides.

The authoritative guide to looking for short-term jobs while abroad.

A World of Options: A Guide to International Exchange, Community Service and Travel for Persons with Disabilities, Christa Bucks, 1996, 659 pp., published by Mobility International USA (MIUSA).

Comprehensive guide to international exchange, study abroad, volunteer service, and travel for persons with disabilities.

For a more comprehensive bibliography, please refer to *Resources for Education Abroad*, compiled in 1996 by William Nolting and Clayton Hubbs, available from NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

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Basic Facts on Study Abroad in the 21st Century

About this Book

This booklet provides basic information about selecting an educational opportunity abroad. Its chief focus is on postsecondary academic programs, but it also includes information related to work, travel, and volunteer opportunities in other countries. *Basic Facts on Study Abroad* is designed for students beginning their search for information and for those on college and university campuses assigned to advise students about academic opportunities abroad.

This edition of *Basic Facts on Study Abroad* was substantially revised by Dawn L. White, director of international education services at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon. The publishers also are grateful for the contributions of Rick Weaver, international studies coordinator in the Study Abroad Office, University of Maryland-College Park; john Pearson, director of the Bechtel International Center, Stanford University; William Hoffa, Academic Consultants International, Amherst, Massachusetts; Deborah Herrin; and Joan Gore, associate academic officer for institutional development and services, Council on International Educational Exchange.

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